

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A system and method are provided in a media access controller for communicating to a number of physical layer devices. The system includes a common bus port for electrical coupling to a common bus that is electrically coupled to each one of the physical layer devices in communication with the media access controller. The system also includes logical circuitry to transmit a training sequence from the common bus port to the physical layer devices. Finally, the system includes logical circuitry to transmit a data block from the common bus port to a respective one of the physical layer devices by way of the common bus, the data block being transmitted in one of a number of time slots of a time division multiplexed transmission. A system and method are also provided in the physical layer devices to receive data from the media access controller.

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